

**CONCORDIA  
UNIVERSITY**



**LIBERAL ARTS  
COLLEGE**



**1979 - 1980**

# WHAT IS LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE?

Liberal Arts College is a unique, new undergraduate university programme now in its first year of operation. Housed in its own building on Concordia's downtown campus. The College is a coherent alternative to the premature specialization and fragmentation of knowledge marking many B.A. programmes. As the only structure of its kind in Montreal and across Canada, the College ensures a demanding university education by combining general liberal arts work with advanced disciplinary study.

Defining the "liberal arts" in contemporary terms, the College stresses work in a Core Curriculum of seven interrelated seminars required of all students. These seminars integrate major areas of human knowledge and understanding, including the humanities, social sciences, art, music, and scientific thought. They share an emphasis on critical study of the complex interrelationships between society and culture, from antiquity to the present. Work in the Core Curriculum, spread across the three years of B.A. degree candidacy, is the requisite basis for Liberal Arts College's second major educational component, advanced study and research in a specific departmental discipline or area of investigation.

## WHAT ARE THE COLLEGE'S GOALS?

Liberal Arts College represents a carefully crafted university education, within which the serious student assumes the responsibility of becoming an educated person. The goal of the combined Core Curriculum-disciplinary B.A. programme is to maximize the student's development of an informed, literate, critical consciousness.

**From its initial planning stages, Liberal Arts College has stressed that:**

*B.A. graduates should know how to write and to organize their thoughts clearly, and should be able to use a second language as a crucial educational resource. Students are not meaningfully educated if they are allowed to leave university without a*

*critical awareness of the nature and development of Western society and culture over time; without an informed familiarity with art and music, or the major expressions of our literary, philosophical, and religious traditions; without an understanding of the modern social sciences and their relation to contemporary problems; without, finally, some intelligent notion of the nature and social consequences of science and technology.*

Above all, Liberal Arts College is for students who think that education is about, and for, life. It views its emphasis on informed knowledge and critical skills as indispensable to real social and cultural understanding. And it sees in such understanding the indispensable precondition for meaningful action in the world. In this sense Liberal Arts College's university work is the beginning, rather than the end, of one's education.

## WHY COME TO LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE?

Liberal Arts College is for serious students willing to work hard to achieve a solid, demanding university education. Its combination of the unique Core Curriculum with advanced disciplinary specialization constitutes the most coherent liberal arts B.A. education available in Montreal, and across Canada. Core courses are seminars which stress development of finely-honed research and expressive skills, as well as the acquisition of basic knowledge and critical approaches.

The College is also an educational community. Small class size, the presence of teachers in the College's own facility which also contains a library and study areas--all combine, with a rich extra-curricular programme, to enhance personal contact and exchanges. And all College students are assigned a faculty adviser upon admission, with whom they discuss their programmes and who keeps track of their progress through the College.

Graduates of Liberal Arts College will have obtained a fine education, which is a possession for life. And Canada-wide surveys carried out by the College

have also indicated that College students will be attractive to graduate and professional schools. Finally, College students should satisfy demanding or specialized employers if they seek a position directly upon graduation.

## LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE

### CORE CURRICULUM

The unique Core Curriculum, required of all students regardless of their disciplinary focus and departmental affiliation, consists of forty-two credits (seven courses) of the ninety credits (fifteen courses) required for B.A. degree conferral. These carefully constructed and interrelated seminars are available only within the College.

Core seminars involve the major areas of human knowledge and understanding, in the humanities, social sciences, art, music, and scientific thought. Given in a set sequence, they are informed by a common concern with the nature and development of Western society and culture, from antiquity to the present. Core courses emphasize careful work in major primary and interpretive materials, as well as development of analytic techniques, careful research and writing skills, and meaningful use of a second language.

### Core Curriculum Three-Year Sequence

Year One	Year Two	Year Three
	<b>Two Of:</b>	
LBCL* 291 Structure and Dynamics of Western Civilization	LBCL 391. Contemporary Civilization	LBCL 490 Integrative Seminar
LBCL 292. Modes of Expression and Interpretation	LBCL 392. The Sciences in Society	ONE OF LBCL 391, 392, 393
LBCL 293. Art and Aesthetic Experience	LBCL 393. Contemporary Modes of Expression and Interpretation	

\* "LBCL" is the acronym for "Liberal Arts College" prefacing all College course listings in the University Calendar.

## CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **LBCL C291. Structure and Dynamics of Western Civilization**

A study of the changing relations between productive structures, socio-political institutions and cultural traditions from antiquity to the present. This course emphasizes the analysis of social change over time, and requires reading in a variety of primary sources and secondary materials. Primary sources such as Aristotle's *Politics*, Aquinas' *Summa Theologiae* and Rousseau's *Discourse on Inequality*, and works such as Marc Bloch's *Feudal Society*, C.B. Macpherson's *Possessive Individualism* and F. Neumann's *Behemoth* will be read. (6 credits)

### **LBCL C292. Modes of Expression and Interpretation**

A survey of major Western literary, religious and philosophical traditions, involving the reading and interpretation of significant primary texts from antiquity to the contemporary period. Emphasis is placed on development of writing skills and interpretive analysis. Works such as the *Odyssey*, Plato's *Symposium*, Goeth's *Faust* and Dostoievski's *Crime and Punishment* will be studied. (6 credits)

### **LBCL C293. Art and Aesthetic Experience**

An integrated course in the nature and development of music and the visual arts, with work in criticism and aesthetic theory. The course examines artistic expressions through thematic and chronological approaches and includes attention to issues concerning the nature of the creative process and the relation of art to society. Laboratories for slide viewing and music listening are part of the course. (6 credits)

### **LBCL C391. Contemporary Civilization**

Analysis of the dynamic relations between individual, state and society in the recent and contemporary world. Classical perspectives and contemporary analyses derived from the social sciences will be brought to bear on selected social, economic, ideological and political problems. Students will read from such works as D. Ricardo's *Principles of Political Economy*, M. Weber's *Economy and Society*, D. Landes' *Unbound Prometheus*, S. Freud's *Interpretation of Dreams*, and Hannah Arendt's *On Revolution*. (6 credits)

### **LBCL C392. The Sciences in Society**

An introduction to the nature, development, organization and social consequences of the scientific enterprise. Issues in the philosophy, sociology and history of science, as well as in the relation of technology to science and to society are emphasized. Works such as Bernal's *Science in History*, Watson's *Double Helix*, and Einstein and Infeld's *Evolution of Physics* will be read, as well as a number of original sources like Aristotle's *Physics* and Darwin's *The Origin of Species*. (6 credits)

**LBCL C393. Contemporary Modes of Expression and Interpretation**

An advanced seminar organized on a topical and thematic basis and emphasizing intensive, sustained analysis of a limited number of fundamentally important literary, religious, and philosophical works. Stress is placed on bringing critical and interpretive approaches to bear on the texts in a series of extended written papers. This permits the requisite sustained analysis of authors such as Hegel, Kierkegaard, Mann and Joyce. (6 credits)

**LBCL C490. Integrative Seminar**

The College research seminar required of all third-year students, reflecting the College's emphasis on the inter-relatedness of all knowledge. Research on an aspect of a common problem or topic from the student's disciplinary or area specialization. The seminar topic varies annually, and students are expected to write a significant research paper. (6 credits)

## COLLEGE ADVANCED-WORK PROGRAMMES

The College's stress on demanding general education in the Core Curriculum is, importantly, linked to its second curricular emphasis: advanced work in a single departmental discipline or area of specialization. All College degree programmes reflect these two, related emphases.

Following admission, upon the basis of a declared major or honours programme, students – acting in close coordination with personal faculty advisers – develop a specific discipline or area of specialization. This choice is normally reflected in the selection of the two non-College courses taken in the first year. College students generally, therefore, work simultaneously in the Core and in a specific department or programme, on either a major, specialization, honours or joint-honours basis.

## THE “LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE-DISCIPLINE” DEGREE

Most students entering the College will also do specialized work in a specific discipline or Faculty – Sociology, French, Political Science, History, Psychology, Classics, Cinema, Physics, Commerce, and so on. They may choose to do a major, a specialization or an honours (subject to the regulations of the Faculty of Arts and Science).

The records of such students will indicate both College standing and departmental status, as well as level of work (major, specialization, honours, or joint-honours). They will, for example, note "Liberal Arts College/Sociology-Honours" or "Liberal Arts College/French-Major". All Liberal Arts College students must satisfy the specific academic requirements of both the College and their departmental programme, as well as the degree requirements of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

## **SPECIAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES**

College degree candidates may utilize all existing Faculty of Arts and Science curricular structures and programmes, including the Undergraduate Scholars Programme, Self-Elected Specialization, and Independent Study. Liberal Arts College students with unique needs or special interests may, with College permission and under close staff supervision, develop individual degree programmes. Such programmes, envisioned only for relatively few students, are available with permission of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies either upon admission or after initial entry into the College. Students should advise the College of their interest and should contact the appropriate programme adviser for such curricular options, as indicated in the University Undergraduate Calendar.

## **ADVISING**

Both the educational goals of Liberal Arts College and the nature of its joint Core-discipline programmes make careful personal advising necessary. Each entering student is assigned a faculty Fellow as his or her personal adviser, and will meet with this adviser regularly. In addition, each student's progress is evaluated annually.

Candidates for honours work in departmental disciplines receive special advising, since their College and disciplinary programmes must be carefully coordinated within the 90-credit B.A. requirements. Careful attention will also be given to career and professional interests as they develop, with a view towards intelligent choice of subsequent career and academic preparation.

# **ADMISSIONS AND PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS FOR LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE**

Students apply simultaneously to Concordia University and Liberal Arts College by filling out and submitting the Concordia University Application for Admission. Box "D" for "Colleges" should be checked, and "Liberal Arts College" written in, on this form if you wish to apply to the College.

Filling in the "College" space on the general application form will alert us to your application, and will trigger the College's own, specific admissions procedures. Rapid attention to your application will be ensured if you will also contact us directly, by phone (879-8051), visit (2030 Mackay St.), or by sending in the tear-off sheet on this brochure.

## **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE**

The requirements for admission to Liberal Arts College are higher than those for general University entrance. The College has its own admissions procedures, which come into play as soon as the University has accepted you generally.

College admission requires a solid CEGEP average, roughly equivalent to the University "B"; promising students, as well as part-time and Mature applicants, may however be admitted to the College on the basis of the evaluations and personal interview required of all students. All applicants are asked to fill out an Information Sheet and to submit a Statement of Purpose, as well as to demonstrate proficiency in English composition and the ability to read a second language, normally French.\* If necessary, post-admission remedial or make-up work will be required. Finally, all applicants are interviewed by College staff.

Students interested in applying to the College should send in the tear-off sheet attached to this brochure; should obtain, complete (indicating "Liberal Arts College" in the appropriate box), and send in the Concordia University Application for Admission; and should contact the College directly for an interview. A personal informational visit to the College can be arranged by phone (879-8051).

Full-time degree candidates normally complete their College Core Curriculum within three academic years; part-time candidates should complete the Core within six academic years.

Honours candidates in all programmes must maintain a "B" average in the College Core Curriculum, with no grade lower than a "C"; all others must maintain a "C" average in the Core, with no grade lower than a "D". All College students in their final year take LBCL 490, the Integrative Seminar, with Honours candidates expected to undertake significant original research on a topic issuing from this seminar. Where appropriate, College Honours candidates may with permission combine the 490 research paper with their departmental, area, or special-programme honours these.

*\* Les étudiants francophones devront donner la preuve de leur connaissance de la langue anglaise.*

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

Students applying to Liberal Arts College are eligible for Concordia Entrance Scholarships (\$1000.00 a year for three years), as well as for other available awards and grants. Students should indicate their desire to be considered for scholarship support on the Concordia University Application for Admission. These Applications must be received before **March 1, 1980** to ensure eligibility.

## COLLEGE LIFE AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Liberal Arts College is an educational community with a rich programme of extra-curricular activities. Within the walls of its Mackay Street brownstone the intellectual excitement and creativity of its seminars and tutorials are reflected in the daily life of the College.

The College's three-storey building at 2030 Mackay Street groups together seminar rooms, faculty offices, a library, and student study and lounge

space. All Core courses are given at 2030 Mackay, as are most talks by visiting scholars and artists. Faculty Fellows are available to students in their offices and during common hours, and the College is the site of a continuing programme of seminars, colloquia, and events in the arts. Involvement in Montreal's cultural life is encouraged, and group visits to major research and cultural centres outside Montreal are also organized.

College students participate in planning the programme of visiting speakers and cultural events, and are eligible to apply to appropriate student government organizations in support of their own activities.

## **COLLEGE COUNCIL**

Liberal Arts College Council groups College staff and student representatives together in a general representative body. Issues pertaining to College life and policy are discussed in Council, and decisions are arrived at through democratic debate and procedures.

## **LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE STAFF, 1979-1980**

The College's faculty Fellows are scholars and teachers chosen from among the University's departments. Teaching Fellows are resident in the College, as is its Principal, who also teaches in the Core Curriculum. A Distinguished Visiting Liberal Arts Fellow, chosen from outside the University for his or her distinguished academic achievement, shall also be resident and teaching in the College.

## **Liberal Arts Fellows for 1979-1980**

Frederick Krantz	Principal (History)
Wolfgang Bottenberg	(Music)
Michael Bross	(Psychology)
Edmund Egan	(Philosophy)
John F. Laffey	(History)
Claude Levy	(French)
George Rudé	(History)
Warren Sanderson	(Fine Arts)
Franziska Shlosser	(Classics & History)
G. David Sheps	(English)
Harvey Shulman	(Political Science)
Malcolm Thurlby	(Art History, Queen's University, Visiting)
Vladimir Zeman	(Philosophy)